Federal City Performing Arts Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 11, 1998
2801 M St., NW, Washington, DC

DIRECTORS: Present: Darrell Lewis, Jeff Peirce, Joe Vignali, Jerry Carpenter, Thom Gibb, Bill Eadie, Chip Heath, Kris Marshall, Jack Gerard, Mark Bombaci, Henry Salevsky

ABSENT: Rich Aldret, Ed Wilber

STAFF: John Perkins, James Holloway

I. Call to Order

Lewis called meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

II. Open Forum

III. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes.
Peirce moves for the approval of the minutes, Bombaci seconds.
Unanimous in favor. Minutes approved.

IV. Operations Committee

Vignali presented minutes of the Operations Committee. See the Operations Minutes for November 1998. Special items of interest concern:

- CD Project production status questioned
- In Recital concert plans not defined
- Atlanta Travel Chair needed.
- Commission work status needed for orchestra and marketing
- Season Brochure is over budget by $3500
- Fundraising chair needed

V. Financial Report

No finance report was given. Peirce noted that the meeting calendars were adjusted to allow the Operations committee to have the monthly reports as soon as possible after the close of the previous month's books. This calendar adjustment also delayed the Board's receipt of the monthly reports by a month. Therefore, the report discussing the October financials will be distributed to the Operations committee this month (November) and to the Board next month (December).

Peirce stated that our actuals appear to be mostly on target with no major red. Finance information will be available for the next meeting. Salevsky asked about the number of season subscribers received; about half of what was expected has arrived. Donations and small concert sales are going very well. Bombaci expressed concern over the lack of a fundraising chair and Peirce indicated that what we needed was a coordinator to pull all the events together. Lewis expressed that he was concerned about the state of volunteerism in general. Bombaci volunteered to act as the coordinator for fundraising.

VI. Executive Director

Perkins indicated that daily operational demands were increasing and development suffers. Bergstom has volunteered to spend some time each week in the Chorus office. A new sponsorship application will be sent out for United Airlines. The Chicago representative has put a good word in for GMCW. Mike MacIntire is discussing a gift foundation. Annie's will be the Holiday concert sponsor. Wilber is heading the In Memorial project and Perkins will be a point man for the project. Future Search needs reflection. The committee will be producing the report on the conference soon. Auction Chair and lack of project energy was expressed. Boykin will lead the effort and will be investigating alternatives for the auction format. Boykin is considering a gallery Art Auction and will make a presentation to that effect. An office space contract has not been signed yet but the rehearsal space is secure for now.

VII. Music Report

Holloway expressed appreciation for a good camp experience and rehearsal with Gregory Payne. Holloway indicated that the membership has passed the point of optional attendance and that he needed everyone's participation. Holloway's In Recital concert will be rescheduled and organized as a Pride and Peaceful CD event and requested a project manager to assist with the project. The Chorus is scheduled to perform at Annie's on Dec 3; for which Holloway asked for assistance to overcome the venue's restrictions. March concert update was given; contracts have been signed and programming selections are being worked on with a recording in mind. There are two CD's in process now, one with a pops/gospel theme featuring PF with "Speak to My Heart" being the working title. The second recording would contain the commission and other classical works. The Richardson Fund will be used for both CDs. The Artistic Advisory Committee is working on a feedback mechanism and planning Festival 2000 and Atlanta.

Viganli indicated that Festival 2000 applications were not due before Nov. 16 and the second concert option will be requested by default. The community performance project was not well developed yet.

VIII. President's Report

Lewis expressed appreciation for the Future Search process. Initial results were already being seen. The retreat was a success and the amount of rehearsal time was very good. Special thanks to Perkins and Vignali for their work on during the Lincoln Theater negotiations that reduced the fee by $4K. Capital Club Gala went well although the attendance at the event was not what was expected. The BOD impact was noticed and people appreciated being thanked for their donations. People wanted to talk. $12-13K was given that evening and Capital Club reports a total of $35 raised since the beginning of the season. Heath expressed that good connections were made and people were delighted to participate. Holloway suggested that we continue to improved the Gala to keep it fresh and that it was difficult getting people's attention during the event. Perkins said that the BOD presence really helped.

Phone-a-thon was to be delayed until after the newsletter goes out in mid-November. The newsletter is the reminder and the phone calls can capitalize on the after-concert experience as well as be an end-of-year appeal. The event will move to the week of Dec. 15-17. Gerard is getting the call list together and some older scripts. BOD members will assemble between 6:45 and 9 PM to make the calls. Gibb asked if the Chorus tracks contact from ticket sales and if they are added to the list. The answer was not at this time as the information is tracked in two separate systems.

The Executive Committee meeting will be moved from December 2 to the 9th.

IX. New Business

- Policy extraction is going well and the initial book was displayed with high lights read to the BOD.
- Reflection on the animosity about money used from "restricted funds" expressed during the retreat. Since official BOD documents do not permanently restrict any FCPAA funds, the BOD has, in the past, voted to spend some previously restricted funds to grow the organization by creating the executive director position. There is still some

animosity among a vocal minority in the organization about this decision. It is suggested that those members such as Doss and Herman be included in future discussions on how to set up an FCPAA funds policy. These individuals express concern about endowment issues and have vested historical attachments to those funds. Holloway indicated that the funds have the memory of individuals connected to them.

- Heath expressed desire to crate a Quilt Panel to commemorate lost Chorus members, that the membership needs something concrete. Gibb indicated that a Chorus Memory Day might be needed.

X. Adjournment

Peirce moved, Gibb seconded a series of motions to begin executive session, end executive session, and then adjourn. Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Carpenter
Secretary, FCPAA